

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter (where underlining “\_” denotes additions and strikethrough “-” denotes deletions).

***Claims:***

1. (Previously Presented) A method for dynamic bin allocation, the method comprising:

obtaining link performance data based on a plurality of test transmissions between two network elements, wherein the plurality of test transmissions comprises an upstream transmission, a downstream transmission, and a full-duplex transmission, the plurality of test transmissions performed in every channel of a discrete multi-tone (DMT) communications system and each performed at a maximum transmission power;

determining a desired transmission scheme for the discrete multi-tone communications system, wherein each channel of the discrete multi-tone communications system is designated a transmission mode based on the link performance data, wherein the link performance data comprises at least one of a data rate, an error rate, a signal-to-interference ratio, and a signal-to-noise ratio and the transmission mode is selected from an upstream mode, a downstream mode, and a full-duplex mode; and

assigning the desired transmission scheme to a connection between the two network elements in the discrete multi-tone communications system.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein  
the link performance data are obtained for each of a plurality of  
predetermined transmission schemes; and  
the desired transmission scheme is selected from the plurality of  
predetermined transmission schemes based on the link performance data.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the test  
transmissions are based on the plurality of predetermined transmission schemes.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising  
communicating the desired transmission scheme to at least one of the two  
network elements and continue communications between the two network  
elements based on the desired transmission scheme.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of  
frequency ranges are defined based on an orthogonal frequency division  
multiplexing (OFDM) technology.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the connection further comprises a digital subscriber line (DSL).

13. (Previously Presented) A system for dynamic bin allocation, the system comprising a first network element and a second network element, wherein each of the first network element and the second network element comprises at least a processor module and a transceiver module that are coordinated to

obtain link performance data based on a plurality of test transmissions between the first network element and the second network element, wherein the plurality of test transmissions comprises an upstream transmission, a downstream transmission, and a full-duplex transmission, the plurality of test transmissions performed in every channel of a discrete multi-tone (DMT) communications system and each performed at a maximum transmission power;

determine a desired transmission scheme for the discrete multi-tone communications system, wherein each channel of the discrete multi-tone communications system is designated a transmission mode based on the link performance data, wherein the link performance data comprises at least one of a

data rate, an error rate, a signal-to-interference ratio, and a signal-to-noise ratio

and the transmission mode is selected from an upstream mode, a downstream mode, and a full-duplex mode; and

assign the desired transmission scheme to a connection between the two network elements in the discrete multi-tone communications system.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein the link performance data are obtained for each of a plurality of predetermined transmission schemes; and

the desired transmission scheme is selected from the plurality of predetermined transmission schemes based on the link performance data.

16. (Previously Presented) A system for dynamic bin allocation, the system comprising:

means for obtaining link performance data based on a plurality of test transmissions between two network elements, wherein the plurality of test transmissions comprises an upstream transmission, a downstream transmission, and a full-duplex transmission, the plurality of test transmissions performed in every channel of a discrete multi-tone (DMT) communications system and each performed at a maximum transmission power;

means for determining a desired transmission scheme for the discrete multi-tone communications system, wherein each channel of the discrete multi-tone communications system is designated a transmission mode based on the link performance data, wherein the link performance data comprises at least one of a data rate, an error rate, a signal-to-interference ratio, and a signal-to-noise ratio and the transmission mode is selected from an upstream mode, a downstream mode, and a full-duplex mode; and

means for assigning the desired transmission scheme to a connection between the two network elements in the discrete multi-tone communications system.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 16, wherein

the link performance data are obtained for each of a plurality of predetermined transmission schemes; and

the desired transmission scheme is selected from the plurality of predetermined transmission schemes based at least on the link performance data.

19. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having code for causing a processor to perform dynamic bin allocation, the computer readable medium comprising:

code adapted to obtain link performance data based on a plurality of test transmissions between the first network element and the second network element, wherein the plurality of test transmissions comprises an upstream transmission, a downstream transmission, and a full-duplex transmission, the plurality of test transmissions performed in every channel of a discrete multi-tone (DMT) communications system and each performed at a maximum transmission power;

code adapted to determine a desired transmission scheme for the discrete multi-tone communications system, wherein each channel of the discrete multi-tone communications system is designated a transmission mode based on the link performance data, wherein the link performance data comprises at least one of a data rate, an error rate, a signal-to-interference ratio, and a signal-to-noise

ratio and the transmission mode is selected from an upstream mode, a downstream mode, and a full-duplex mode; and

code adapted to assign the desired transmission scheme to a connection between the two network elements in the discrete multi-tone communications system.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 19, wherein

the link performance data are obtained for each of a plurality of predetermined transmission schemes; and

the desired transmission scheme is selected from the plurality of predetermined transmission schemes based on the link performance data.